



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/511,804	10/19/2004	Leonie Maria Geerdinck	NL 020303	4276
24737	7590	03/29/2007	EXAMINER	
PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS			WON, BUMSUK	
P.O. BOX 3001			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510			2879	
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE		
3 MONTHS	03/29/2007	PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/511,804	GEERDINCK ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Bumsuk Won	2879	

TH

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 March 2007.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1 and 4-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1 and 4-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ . |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ . |

DETAILED ACTION

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 3/6/2007 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 4-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Objections

Claims 1 and 4-20 are objected to because of the following informalities: In claims 1, 9-11, 14, 19 and 20, "aluminium" should be "aluminum". Claims 4-8, 12, 13, 15-18 are objected to due to claim dependency. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 4-8, 14 and 16-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hampden (2003/0168635).

Regarding claim 1, Hampden discloses a luminescent screen (throughout the specification, specifically figures 35A-F and 40, 1208) comprising particles of luminescent material embedded in an inorganic material (paragraph 213) comprising aluminum phosphate and silicon oxide (paragraph 213).

Regarding claim 4, Hampden discloses a discharge lamp (figure 40) equipped with the screen claimed in claim 1.

Regarding claim 5, Hampden discloses a vessel (1202) that is transparent for visible light (paragraph 237) and the screen is deposited on part of an inner wall (figures 40 and 41).

Regarding claims 6 and 7, Hampden discloses phosphor having yttrium oxide being doped (paragraph 171).

Regarding claim 8, Hampden discloses the lamp is fluorescent lamp (paragraph 237).

Regarding claim 14, Hampden discloses a discharge lamp (figure 40) comprising: a discharge vessel (1202); and a luminescent screen (throughout the specification, specifically figures 35A-F and 40, 1208) formed on a wall of the vessel (figures 40 and 41), the screen comprising a first layer having a luminescent material having luminescent particle (1208, paragraphs 211-213, "phosphor particles") formed on the wall of the vessel (figures 40 and 41); and a second layer comprising an inorganic material having inorganic particles, and the second layer directly covering the first layer (paragraphs 211-213, "the phosphor particles are coated, figures 35A-F).

Regarding claim 16, Hampden discloses the inorganic material includes silicon oxide (paragraph 213).

Regarding claims 17 and 18, Hampden discloses phosphor having yttrium oxide being doped (paragraph 171).

Regarding claim 19, Hampden discloses a method of forming a luminescent screen on a lamp wall (figures 35A-F, 40 and 41) comprising the acts of: mixing luminescent particles with aluminum phosphate and silicon oxide particles to a slurry (paragraphs 211-

Art Unit: 2879

213); applying the slurry to the lamp wall (figure 41); and drying the lamp wall (paragraph 240).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 9-13 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hampden (2003/0168635) in view of Hiroyuki (JP 01178584) which is cited prior art in the IDS.

Regarding claim 9, Hampden discloses all the claim limitation except for diameter of particles of the luminescent material being greater than diameter of the inorganic particles of the aluminum phosphate by at least an order of magnitude of ten times.

Hiroyuki discloses the luminescent material having luminescent particles greater than aluminum phosphate by at least 50 times (abstract, constitution), for the purpose of having effective light emitting performance.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have luminescent particles greater than aluminum phosphate by at least 50 times disclosed by Hiroyuki in the luminescent screen disclosed by Hampden, for the purpose of having effective light emitting performance.

Regarding claim 10, Hiroyuki discloses aluminum phosphate is added to adhere to the phosphor particles (abstract, constitution, the phosphate is added for the adhering purpose, thus the phosphate is mixed between the phosphor particles). The reason for combining is same as claim 9.

Art Unit: 2879

Regarding claim 11, Hampden discloses a luminescent screen (throughout the specification, specifically figures 35A-F and 40, 1208) comprising a first layer having a luminescent material having luminescent particle (1208, paragraphs 211-213, "phosphor particles"); and a second layer comprising an inorganic material having inorganic particles, and the second layer directly covering the first layer (paragraphs 211-213, "the phosphor particles are coated, figures 35A-F).

Hampden does not disclose the inorganic particles are smaller than the luminescent particles so that the inorganic particles fill pores between the luminescent particles.

Hiroyuki discloses in an analogous art the inorganic particles are smaller than the luminescent particles (abstract, constitution, the phosphate is added for the adhering purpose, thus the phosphate is mixed between the phosphor particles), for the purpose of achieving excellent dispersibility (abstract, purpose).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have phosphor particles and aluminum phosphate wherein the size of the aluminum phosphate is much smaller than the phosphor particles disclosed by Hiroyuki in the luminescent screen disclosed by Hampden, for the purpose of achieving excellent dispersibility.

Regarding claim 12, Hiroyuki discloses the luminescent particles are greater than aluminum phosphate by at least 50 times (abstract, constitution). The reason for combining is same as claim 11.

Regarding claim 13, Hiroyuki discloses the inorganic material includes aluminum oxide and silicon oxide (abstract, constitution). The reason for combining is same as claim 11.

Art Unit: 2879

Regarding claim 15, Hampden discloses all the claim limitation except for diameter of particles of the luminescent material being greater than diameter of the inorganic particles of the aluminum phosphate by at least an order of magnitude of ten times.

Hiroyuki discloses the luminescent material having luminescent particles greater than aluminum phosphate by at least 50 times (abstract, constitution), for the purpose of having effective light emitting performance.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have luminescent particles greater than aluminum phosphate by at least 50 times disclosed by Hiroyuki in the luminescent screen disclosed by Hampden, for the purpose of having effective light emitting performance.

Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hampden (2003/0168635) in view Noboru (JP 54124583) which is cited prior art in the IDS.

Regarding claim 20, Hampden discloses all the claim limitation except for the aluminum phosphate being mono aluminum phosphate.

Noboru discloses the aluminum phosphate includes mono aluminum phosphate (abstract, constitution), for the purpose of having effective light emitting performance.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have includes mono aluminum phosphate disclosed by Noboru in the method disclosed by Hampden, for the purpose of having effective light emitting performance.

Contact information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bumsuk Won whose telephone number is 571-272-2713. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Art Unit: 2879

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimeshkumar Patel can be reached on 571-272-2457. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Bumsuk Won
Patent Examiner


JOSEPH WILLIAMS
PRIMARY EXAMINER